

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

COMNAVTEL COM WASHDC

UNCLAS STATE 159697

FOLLOWING REPEATS ADDIS ABABA 7833 ACTION CINCUSNAVEUR,
CNO, NAVCOMMSTA GREECE NEA MAKRI, NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA
USCINCEUR INFO ASMARA, DEPT OF STATE 01 JUL 75

QUOTE

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 7833

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ASMARA JUL 1 HERewith
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

QUOTE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER AEMR

SUBJECT: RETURN OF DEPENDENTS TO ASMARA

1. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT LAST FEBRUARY ALL USG DIRECT-FIRE/
CONTRACTOR DEPENDENTS WERE EVACUATED FROM ASMARA. SINCE THEN
SITUATION HAS GRADUALLY RETURNED APPROXIMATELY TO NORMAL IN ASMARA
AND IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS. VIRTUALLY ALL ELIGIBLE DEPENDENTS WHO
DESIRED TO RETURN, EXCEPT THOSE OF CONGEN EMPLOYEES, HAVE DONE SO.

2. CONGEN AND NAVCOMUNIT ARE CURRENTLY ONLY USG AGENCIES RE-
MAINING IN ASMARA. NAVCOMUNIT COMPLEMENT CONSISTS OF TEN US NAVY
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PERSONNEL ON UNACCOMPANIED TOUR PLUS CIVILIAN CONTRACTORS NOW

NUMBERING TWENTY-SIX BUT WHICH, WHEN AT FULL STRENGTH, SHOULD TOTAL FIFTY. ONLY CONTRACTOR MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL, ALL OF WHOM PRESENT, AUTHORIZED TO BRING DEPENDENTS TO POST. ONLY ONE OTHER CONTRACTOR DEPENDENT REMAINS WHO MIGHT COME TO ASMARA.

3. EMBASSY HAS ALREADY AUTHORIZED RETURN TO ASMARA OF MS. JO CAROLE POTTER, FSS-8, CONGEN SECRETARY, EVACUATED LAST FEBRUARY. SHE SHOULD BE BACK AT POST IN MID-JULY. DECISION TAKE IN VIEW EASING OF SITUATION NOTED ABOVE AND TO MEET INCREASING WORKLOAD AS CONGEN ACTIVITIES EXPAND ONCE MORE AFTER EMERGENCY CUT-BACK.

4. AS CAN BE SEEN, DECISION ON RETURN OF DEPENDENTS BF DIRECT-HIRE USG PERSONNEL NOW AFFECTS ONLY CONGEN PERSONNEL. THERE NUMBER SEVEN: MRS. SHERRY (WIFE OF CONGEN, NOW IN ADDIS); MRS. KLOTZBAVH AND TWO CHILDREN (DEPENDENTS OF GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER, NOW IN US); AND MRS. HAM AND TWO CHILDREN (DEPENDENTS OF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, NOW IN BONN).

5. UNLESS INSTRUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO CONTRARY, EMBASSY PLANS AUTHORIZE RETURN OF DEPENDENTS TO ASMARA. WOULD, IF POSSIBLE, PERFER FIRST PERMIT RETURN MRS. SHERRY, WIFE OF CONSUL GENERAL, BY JULY, WITH REMAINING DEPENDENTS APPROVED TO RETURN AFTER JULY 31.

6. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES LIKELY TO PREVAIL IN ERITREA FOR SOME TIME. RELATED TENSIONS AND CURFEW EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO IMPOSE PARTICULAR HARDSHIPS ON AMERICANS SERVING IN ASMARA. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT CONSIDER ARRANGEMENT UNDER WHICH PRESENCE OF DEPENDENTS AT POST IS MADE OPITONAL, VIZ., DEPENDENTS MIGHT AT DISCRETION BE AUTHORIZED TO RESIDE OFF-POST AND EMPLOYEES RECEIVE SEPARATE MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE FOR THEM. ADVISE.
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